

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 02468 061409Z

42

ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2468

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, YE

SUBJECT: AMCITS IN JAIL IN ADEN

REF: SANA 2217, 2218, STATE 191451 & 209276 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: PDRY NOT YET APPROACHED BY YARG ABOUT POSSIBLE RELEASE OF AMCITS IN JAIL IN ADEN. DEMARCHE NOW TO BE MADE BY ASNAG TO PDRY FONMIN MUTIH DURING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING IN NEW YORK AND BY AHMED SAID DURING NEXT MEETING WITH PDRY MINECON ABDAL AZIZ ABDAL WALI.
2. SERIESGGF UNEXPECTED EVENTS HAVE DELAYED THIS REPORT AN MADE IT LESS SATISFYING THAN HOPED FOR.
3. SANA REFTTEL AHMED SAID TRIP TO ADEN FELL THROUGH. IT WAS IN PART INTENDED TO MAKE IT UNNECESSARY FOR LEFT LEANING MINECON ALI LUTF AL-THAWR TO GO TO ADEN, AND PERHAPS MAKE COMMITMENTS ON ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND TRANSIT ODSTRADE THAT YARG MIGHT NOT WANT TO IMPLEMENT. IN ANY CASE, WHILE AHMED SAID AS ITING IN TAIZ FOR FINAL GO-AHEAD ON HIS TRIP TO ADEN, ABDAL AZIZ ODAL WALI SENT WORD THAT HE HIMSELF COMING TO TAIZ, AS IN MORE NORMALLY THE CASE FOR HIS MEETINGS WITH AHMED SAID. IN THE END, BEFORE EITHER SAID

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PAGE 02 SANA 02468 061409Z

WENT SOUTH OR ABDAL WALI CAME NORTH,

AHMED SAID RETURNED TO SANA TO ACCOMPANY PRES HAMDY ON HIS TEN DAY, SIX NATION MIDDLE EAST STATE VISIT.

3. THE PROBLEMS OF MAKING THE DEMARCH (AND FINDING OUT ABOUT IT) WERE COMPLICATED BY THE LAST MINUTE YARG DECISION TO DEPART ON THE STATE VISITS TWO DAYS EARLIER THAN ANNOUNCED. IN THE CRUSH AT THE AIRPORT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND OUT FROM AHMED SAID WHETHER THE INITIAL APPROACH TO PDRY HAD BEEN MADE.

4. IT HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN MADE.

5. SAID STILL EXPECTS TO SEE ABDAL WALI IN THE NEAR FUTURE, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT CLEAR EXACTLY WHEN. MOREOVER,

YARG FONMIN ABDALLAH AL-ASNAG WILL RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH PDRY FONMIN MUTIH WHEN THEY ARE BOTH AT THE UNGA SESSION LATER THIS MONTH.

6. COMMENT: I DO NOT THINK THIS DELAY REDUCES OR INCREASES THE PROSPECT OF SUCCESS ALTHOUGH IT IS DISSATISFYING TO SEE THE ORIGINAL PLANS FALL THROUGH. THE EFFORT IS A USEFUL ONE, PARTICULARLY AT THIS JUNCTURE IN PDRY'S ZIG-ZAG EXISTENCE, AND LIKE THE DEPARTMENT I AM DELIGHTED THE YARG HAS UNDERTAKEN TO HELP. I IMPRESSED UPON AHMED SAID IN OUR TALK ON 2 SEPT THAT WE THOUGHT TRIALS FOR THE TWO AMERICANS MIGHT BE COMING UP, AND IT WAS NOT RPT NOT WISE TO WAIT TOO LONG. SAID DIDN'T THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY MOVEMENT ON THE AMERICANS, BUT I INFORMED HIM OF REPORTS OF VICTOR DICK CONVICTION AND EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN. I ALSO QUESTIONED HIM CLOSELY ON WHAT HE THOUGHT THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS WERE. HE STILL THINKS IT IS WORTH THE EFFORT, AND IS WILLING TO UNDERTAKE IT. HOWEVER, HE THINKS IT SHOULD BE DONE ON A PERSONAL BASIS, BY ASNAG AND HIMSELF, RATHER THAN THROUGH SOME OTHER OFFICIAL EMISSARY TO THE SOUTH. I AGREE. HE OFFERED TO RAISE THE MATTER FORMALLY AND GET THE PRESIDENT'S AGREEMENT TO SEND A MISSION RIGHT AWAY IF WE THOUGHT IT SUFFICIENTLY URGENT, BUT HE THOUGHT THE RECEPTION IN THE SOUTH TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANA 02468 061409Z

THIS SORT OF A DEMARCHE WOULD BE MUCH LESS FAVORABLE

THAN IF ASNAG AND HE WORKED THROUGH THEIR PERSONAL CHANNELS. AGAIN, I AGREE. IN THE MEANTIME, I GAVE ASNAG WITH GIST OF DEMARCHE TO PDRY OFFICIALY IN STATE 209276 WHICH PROVIDES VERY GOOD COUNTERPOINT TO OUR EFFORTS HERE.

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